

Samuel Blodget to Thomas Jefferson, June 25, 1792, from Thomas Jefferson and the National Capital. Edited by Saul K. Padover.

Blodget to Jefferson

Boston June 25th 1792

Sir

Mr H, Otis, the Bearer of this will deliver you four first Impressions of the City of Washington, from the plate executed by your order, for Mr Hill, who wishes to make some slight additions before he sends it forward to you. I hope by return of Post to receive your permission to take off a few for my friends provided you may deem that the circulating them as presents may be conducive to the general good of the object I have so much at heart

I have found everyone much disposed to favour the Plan of the City, & believe we shall obtain many good Citizens from this Place, where I have disposed of as many of my lots as I thought were sufficient to make it of general notoriety; but this I have done at a low price—however I doubt not, by the next season, that the laying the foundation for the principle Buildings will give due encouragement to settlers, many of whom are only waiting to

see the principle objects rising at their approach to the seat of our future greatness; —(merely owing to a want of Cash of all the persons who promised to assist in the Loan not one have paid in their first Instalment except myself, & this I have done at some disadvantage however the circulating money will increase by means of the late establishment of a new Bank in which this state are concerned one third, under the title

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of the *Union Bank* this has been effected on a plan of mine with the assistance of Mr S Adams, Dr Jarvis Mr Austin, & the “ *Old Whigs* in order *some* say to counteract *in part* the too great Influence of the U. S. Bank & its Branches in tending fast *toward ye Consolidation* of the State Governments &c. &c. I must beg pardon for diviating in part from my orders by paying one half of the money only to Vizt 5000 dollars into the Branch Bank

which remains subject to the order of the Commissioners, by any Bill at Sight that may be signed by them for the amount. The other 5000, dollars rests with the agents for the Union Bank & an draft Order for that amount on me or on Benj'a Green their treasurer, will be as duly honored as the former Mr Bulfinch, through modesty, has declined presenting his Plan & this has frightened me out of my Intention. however I doubt not but that there will be enough to make a choice from,—The Plate I will keep till I hear from you & am till then and ever after with much respect your devoted servant

S Blodget Junr

Blodget Saml. 1792. 25 *June recd. July 11.*

T. Jefferson Esqr *Secy of State & for foreign affairs Philadelphia*

hand by Mr Otis forwarded by Sir yr most obedt hum.

H. G. Otis

[P. 220–21, U. S. v. SMITH.]